



Officers

Chairman
Edmund F. Schmidt, *Darien*
Vice Chairman
Charles Janson, *Darien*
Secretary
Edith Pestana, *Hartford*
Treasurer
Edward Munster, *Haddam*
Assistant Treasurer
Walter Fiederowicz, *Litchfield*

Gubernatorial Appointees

Theodore F. Ells, *Branford*
Natalie Ketcham, *Redding*
Edith Pestana, *Hartford*

**Additional Members of the
Board of Trustees**

Serena T. Bechtel, *Greenwich*
Denise Best, *Hartford*
Michael Blair, *Stonington*
Jeanné Chesanow, *Cheshire*
Leroy Diggs, *Danbury*
Robert Facsy, *AIA, Wilton*
Lynn Friedman, *Madison*
MaryAnn Handley, *Bolton*
Adrienne Famar Houel, *Bridgeport*
Garry Leonard, *Madison*
James McLaughlin, *Durham*
Jeffrey Morgan, *South Kent*
Jeffrey Muthersbaugh, *Bethel/Haddam*
Thomas Nissley, *New Canaan*
Donald Poland, *Hartford*
George Purtill, *Glastonbury*
The Hon. Kelvin Roldan, *Hartford*
Caroline Sloat, *Thompson*
Robert Svensk, *Southport*
John B. Toomey, Jr., *Bolton*
Jane A. Vercelli, *Thompson*
Jeanne Webb, *Bolton*
Richard N. Wics, *AIA, Branford*
Douglas Williams, *Thompson*
Hiram P. Williams, *South Kent*

Advisory Council

Martha Alexander, *New Haven*
J. Barclay Collins, *Sharon*
William Crowe, *Canton*
Jared Edwards, *FAIA, West Hartford*
Inger Elliott, *Stonington*
Gerald Farrell, Jr., *Wallingford*
Mimi Findlay, *New Canaan*
Glenn Geathers, *Hartford*
John Herzog, *Southport*
Lee G. Kuckro, *Wethersfield*
Stephen S. Lash, *Stonington*
Charles T. Lee, *Greenwich*
Peter Malkin, *Greenwich*
Cesar Pelli, *FAIA, New Haven*
The Hon. Andrew Romaback, *Goshen*
John W. Shannahan, *Suffield*
Rob Simmons, *Stonington*

Helen Higgins
Executive Director

March 9, 2012

To: Planning and Development Committee

RE: Testimony in FAVOR of S.B. No. 342 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNET WEB SITE FOR THE WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.

Testimony of Helen Higgins, Executive Director, Connecticut Trust for Historic

My name is Helen Higgins, and I am Executive Director of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. The Trust is Connecticut's non-profit statewide preservation organization, established by Special Act of the Connecticut General Assembly in 1975 (SA 93-75). It is committed to protecting and nourishing the vitality of significant buildings and landscapes through grants, loans, on-site technical preservation assistance, educational programs and publications.

The WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL (W3R NHT) became Federal Law in March of 2009.

Until now the National Park Service (NPS) has not invested in CT W3R NHT assets and has not matched Connecticut's public and private costs of maintaining or developing assets associated with the W3R NHT. Developing a web site will be a good first start of investment in this important historic asset.

This national trail is a tourism route from Boston and Newport to the East, and to Philadelphia, Washington. Williamsburg and Yorktown to the South. The heritage is beautifully preserved. Connecticut will have visitors from the other nine states and DC along the route. As well as from Canada and France. Having web access to information on the trail will be a big incentive to travel to Connecticut to enjoy the trail and all the other historic assets associated with it.

For example, a web site can encourage visitors from in-state as well as out of state to visit the Continental and French army encampments from early June to the End of October that will stretch the entire route and be celebrated with festivals and re-enactments and be attractive to tourists.

Please support SB 342.